

Message Text

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TO HODDING CARTER FROM PA/PRESS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OVIP, SOPN (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT:TRAVELLING PRESS SUMMARY, MORNING AUGUST 9

NO. 9

1-NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON POST -- HOAGLAND AND LIPPMAN FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "PRES. SADAT ACCEPTED THE INVITATION TO THE CAMP DAVID SUMMIT SECONDS AFTER SECSTATE VANCE EXTENDED IT TO HIM WITHOUT ASKING FOR ANY ASSURANCES OF NEW ISRAELI CONCESSIONS, A SENIOR STATE DEPT. OFFICIAL SAID LAST NIGHT."

OTHER POINTS:

-SADAT'S IMMEDIATE ACCEPTANCE SURPRISED VANCE. IT INDICATED THAT SADAT WAS EAGER TO KEEP ALIVE THE PEACE PROCESS.
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-AT PRESS CONFERENCE SADAT AND VANCE DUCKED QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA OR PROSPECTS FOR THE CAMP DAVID MEETING. THEY LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT AMERICAN INTERVENTION AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR WAS KEEPING THE PEACE INITIATIVE ALIVE.
-VANCE CHARACTERIZED US ROLE AS THAT OF A FULL PARTNER WHO WOULD OFFER PROPOSALS OF ITS OWN TO OVERCOME SPECIFIC OBSTACLES. THIS HELPED SADAT CLIMB DOWN FROM HIS REFUSAL TO HOLD DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS. SADAT SUGGESTED THAT THE PERSONAL INVITATION FROM CARTER WAS THE KEY FACTOR IN HIS DECISION.

- SADAT WAS UNUSUALLY RETICENT AT PRESS BRIEFING.
- SADAT HAD LET IT BE KNOWN THROUGH PRIVATE CHANNELS THAT HE DID NOT WISH PERSONALLY TO HAVE ANY MORE DEALINGS WITH BEGIN.
- SOVIETS AND OTHER ARAB STATES WERE NOT INFORMED IN ADVANCE.

NYT -- GWERTZMAN FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "PRES. SADAT SAID TONIGHT THAT HE HAD AGREED TO ATTEND THE MEETING AT CAMP DAVID NEXT MONTH WITH PRES. CARTER AND PM BEGIN BECAUSE OF AN AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO BECOME A .FULL PARTNER. IN MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS."

OTHER POINTS:

- SADAT STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHED TO THE EXPANSION OF THE AMERICAN ROLE.
 - VANCE AFFIRMED THE US WAS READY TO BECOME A FULL PARTNER, BUT WAS AMBIGUOUS ABOUT THE MEANING. IT WAS UNCLEAR IF THE US WAS PREPARED TO PRESS A SETTLEMENT ON ISRAEL AS EGYPT HAS DEMANDED.
 - WHITE HOUSE SOURCES IN WASHINGTON SAID NO BROAD AMERICAN PEACE PLAN WOULD BE INTRODUCED.
 - THE ADMINISTRATION SEEMS TO HAVE MOVED TOWARD SADAT.S
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POSITION.

- SADAT APPARENTLY DID NOT NEED MUCH PERSUASION FROM VANCE.
- FEW DETAILS HAVE EMERGED FROM VANCE.S MEETINGS WITH SADAT OR BEGIN.

WALL ST. JOURNAL -- HOUSE AND SCHELLHARDT; NO DATELINE

LEAD: PRES. CARTER WILL TRY TO KEEP FADING MIDEAST PEACE HOPES ALIVE BY MEETING LEADERS OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL AT HIS CAMP DAVID RETREAT BEGINNING SEPT. 5, THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED."

OTHER POINTS:

- THE SUMMIT IS CARTER.S OWN IDEA AND WAS AGREED UPON AT CAMP DAVID MEETING LAST WEEK BY AMERICAN OFFICIALS WHO HAD RUN OUT OF IDEAS FOR BREAKING THE DEADLOCK.
- THE RISKS ARE HIGH FOR THIS DRAMATIC GESTURE. IF IT FAILS, TENSIONS IN THE MIDEAST MIGHT RISE.
- AMERICAN OFFICIALS WILL TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE MEETING AND WILL OFFER COMPROMISES IF THE TALKS ARE STYMIED.
- ACTING AS AN INETERMEDIARY HAS BEEN FRUITLESS AND FRUS-TRATING. SADAT SAID HE CONSIDERS THE US A FULL PARTNER, AND

VANCE ACCEPTED THE CHARACTERIZATION BUT DECLINED TO EXPLAIN HIS INTERPRETATION OF THER TERM.

- AN ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL SAID THE INVITATIONS WENT OUT "NOT BECAUSE THE PROSPECTS FOR PEACE ARE SO GOOD, BUT

THAT THE RISKS HAVE IN FACT RISEN." HE ALSO CITED "LARGER INTERNATIONAL DIMENSIONS, BOTH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC," THUS INDICATING BELIEF THAT KEEPING A SERIOUS PEACE EFFORT UNDERWAY WOULD MODERATE ARAB POLICIES ON OIL AND PRODUCTION. -ADDITIONAL REASONS FOR THE MEETING WERE THAT EACH SIDE SEEMED TO BE HARDENING ITS POSITION AND PERSONAL RELATIONS BETWEEN SADAT AND BEGIN WERE DETERIORATING RAPIDLY. -CARTER IS PUTTING HIS PERSONAL PRESTIGE ON THE LINE, BUT HIS AIDES SAY THAT THE JEWISH VOTE IS LOST UNLESS HIS UNCLASSIFIED

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STRATEGY SUCCEEDS. CARTER HOPES THAT IN THE SECLUSION AT CAMP DAVID THE TWO LEADERS CAN SETTLE ON A BROAD FRAMEWORK FOR A PEACE AGREEMENT. -SADAT SOUNDED UPBEAT ABOUT PEACE PROSPECTS, AFTER A RECENT PERIOD OF GLOOM.

CSM -- SOUTHERLAND FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "PRES. SADAT.S AGREEMENT TO MEET ISRAEL AT THE SUMMIT LEVEL IS APPARENTLY AIMED AT BRINGING THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE AMERICAN PRESSURE ON THE ISRAELIS."

OTHER POINTS:

-SADAT HOPES THAT AT THE SUMMIT HE CAN OBTAIN AN ISRAELI COMMITMENT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES. IF HE FAILS, HE CAN CLAIM TO HAVE GONE THE LAST MILE. HE RETREATED FROM HIS REJECTION OF DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT AN ISRAELI COMMITMENT TO WITHDRAWAL. EGYPTIAN SOURCES SAY SADAT IS AS SKEPTICAL AS EVER ABOUT ISRAELI INTENTIONS, BUT THAT HE WOULD RISK ISOLATION FROM THE US IF HE REFUSED THE SUMMIT. -THERE IS RELIEF HERE THAT EGYPT IS NO LONGER VIEWED AS THE OBSTACLE TO PEACE. -EGYPTIAN SOURCES SUSPECT THE SUMMIT IS INTENDED TO BOLSTER CARTER.S IMAGE AS A STATESMAN AND HELP HIM IN THE POLLS. -OBSERVERS ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE ELEMENT OF DESPERATION IN THE SUMMIT IDEA. -US AGHREEMENT TO BREAK IMPASSES WITH SUGGESTIONS OF ITS OWN IS MOST IMPORTANT TO THE EGYPTIANS. -CONTINUED DEADLOCK COULD LEAD TO AN ARAB SUMMIT, THUS CARTER.S PRESTIGE IS ON THE LINE AS NEVER BEFORE.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE -- NO BRODER UNCLASSIFIED

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NEW YORK DAILY NEWS -- NOT DELIVERED TODAY

BOSTON HERALD AMERICAN -- WALLACH FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "PRES. SADAT SAID THAT HE ACCEPTED PRES. CARTER.S INVITATION TO A CAMP DAVID SUMMIT WITH PM BEGIN BECAUSE THE US HAS PLEDGED TO ACT AS A .FULL PARTNER. AND PROPOSED ITS OWN SOLUTION TO SALVAGE DEADLOCKED ISRAELI-EGYPT PEACE TALKS."

OTHER POINTS:

- VANCE INDICATED CARTER WOULD NOT HESITATE TO MAKE PROPOSALS TO BREAK THE DEADLOCK.
- THE SUMMIT APPEARED THE ONLY AVENUE LEFT TO GET THE DERAILED TALKS BACK ON THE TRACK.
- VANCE SERVED NOTICE THAT THE US EXPECTS ISRAEL TO ACCEPT ALL THE PROVISIONS OF 242 AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

WASHINGTON STAR -- BRADSHER FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "PRES. CARTER HAS TAKEN A GAMBLE ON THE VOLATILE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION BY INVITING THE LEADERS OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL TO MEET WITH HIM AT A TIME WHEN THEIR NEGOTIATING POSITIONS ARE STILL FAR APART."

OTHER POINTS:

- CARTER DECIDED ON THE SUMMIT BECAUSE PROSPECTS FOR ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS WERE SLIPPING BACKWARD. THE RISKS TO PRESIDENTIAL PRESTIGE WERE CONSIDERED LESS THAN THE RISKS OF LETTING THE SITUATION DRIFT ACCORDING TO SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS HERE AND IN WASHINGTON.
- CARTER OFFERED SADAT A GRACEFUL EXIT FROM THE CORNER HE HAD PAINTED HIMSELF INTO.
- NEITHER EGYPT NOR ISRAEL CHANGED ITS BASIC POSITION ON A PEACE SETTLEMENT.

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- A SENIOR OFFICIAL SAID NEITHER THE US NOR ISRAEL GAVE UP ANYTHING TO GET SADAT.S AGREEMENT TO TALK. HE SAID US ROLE WOULD CONTINUE THE SAME. SUGGESTIONS WOULD BE OFFERED TO KEEP THE TALKS GOING; NO OVERALL PLAN WOULD BE SUBMITTED.
- IN WASHINGTON, SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SUGGESTED THE BEST THE US COULD HOPE FOR IN THE SUMMIT WOULD BE AN AGREEMENT ON A MECHANISM FOR CONTINUING THE TALKS.
- NO SPECIFIC DURATION HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE SUMMIT; POWELL INDICATED CARTER WOULD STICK WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS AS LONG AS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE PROGRESS.

2. WIRES

AP -- SCHWEID; NO DATELINE

LEAD: "PRES. CARTER IS PUTTING HIS PERSONAL PRESTIGE ON THE

THE LINE BY SPONSORING A NEW ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN SUMMIT MEETING, BUT EGYPT AND ISRAEL ARE BOTH GOING TO THE PEACE TABLE

WITH THEIR OLD DEMANDS THAT ONLY THE OTHER MUST MAKE FIRST CONCESSIONS."

OTHER POINTS:

- VANCE SAID THE US IS A FULL PARTNER AND "WILL FREE TO MAKE OUR SUGGESTIONS."
- ISRAEL IS VERY OPPOSED TO ANY US PEACE PLAN.

UPI -- WEBB; NO DATELINE

LEAD: "ISRAEL AND EGYPT ACCEPTED SECSTATE VANCE.S INVITATION FOR A LABOR DAY WEEKEND SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN THE US SO RAPIDLY THAT US OFFICIALS RETURNING WITH VANCE TODAY WERE ASTOUNDED AT THE SPEEDY SUCCESS OF THE MISSION."
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OTHER POINTS:

- THE SUMMIT IS A WAY TO END THE DEADLOCK IN THE STALLED PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.
- US OFFICIALS WERE ASTONISHED THAT EACH LEADER ACCEPTED THE INVITATION WITHIN MINUTES WITHOUT BOTHERING TO CONSULT HIS GOVERNMENT OR ADVISORS.
- IN ANOTHER SURPRISE, VANCE ANNOUNCED THE US WOULD BE A FULL PARTNER. THERE WAS SOME CONCERN THAT WASHINGTON AND CAIRO MIGHT HAVE DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS OF THIS TERM.
- VANCE IS SCHEDULED TO REPORT DIRECTLY TO CARTER ON ARRIVAL.
- IT IS REMARKABLE THAT VANCE HAD GOTTEN BOTH SIDES TO AGREE TO A SUMMIT WITHOUT ANY CHANGE IN EITHER.S NEGOTIATING POSITION.

REUTERS -- GREGSON FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "PRES. SADAT HAS AGREED TO ATTEND THE SUMMIT MEETING IN WASHINGTON WITH PRES. CARTER AND ISRAELI PM BEGIN BECAUSE OF AMERICA.S DECISION TO BECOME A FULL PARTNER IN THE TALKS."

OTHER POINTS:

- EGYPT HAS LONG URGED THE US TO GIVE THE ROLE OF MEDIATOR AND PUT FORWARD ITS OWN PLAN AND PUT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL.
- VANCE GAVE NO INDICATION THAT THE US WOULD PRESENT A PLAN.
- A SENIOR US OFFICIAL SAID THE US AND EGYPT AGREED ON THE MEANING OF THE TERM "FULL PARTNER."

3. NETWORKS

CBS RADIO--KALB FROM ALEXANDRIA

MIDEAST SUMMIT

SECRETARY VANCE IS HOMEWARD-BOUND TODAY; HIS MISSION ;AVING ACHIEVED MORE THAN HE HAD EXPECTED. HE WON QUICK
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AGREEMENT FROM BOTH BEGIN AND SADAT TO JOIN PRESIDENT CARTER IN A MIDDLE-EAST SUMMIT. JUST HOW LONG THE SUMMIT WILL GO IS UNCERTAIN BUT OFFICIALS SAY MR. CARTER IS PREPARED TO SPEND DAY AFTER DAY AT CAMP DAVID TO HELP CREATE A FRAMEWORK FOR PEACE.

IN ALEXANDRIA LAST NIGHT VANCE USED A PHRASE THAT MUST HAVE BEEN DIPLOMATIC MUSIC TO SADAT'S EARS--VANCE SAYING THAT THE US IS A FULL PARTNER IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT SADAT HAS BEEN FISHING FOR IN THE HOPE THAT ANY U.S. PEACE PLAN WOULD BE MORE PRO-EGYPT THAN PRO-ISRAEL. BUT VANCE SOUGHT TO ENDOW THE PHRASE WITH NEUTRALITY SAYING THE U.S. IS A FULL PARTNER IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE. U.S. OFFICIALS LATER SAID THE U.S. HAS NO PEACE PLAN BUT IS ALWAYS PREPARED TO POKE SUGGESTIONS ON THE TABLE. (ALEXANDRIA)

NBC--VALARIANI FROM ALEXANDRIA

WITH SECRETARY VANCE STANDING AT HIS SIDE, PRESIDENT SADAT MADE CLEAR HE HAD AGREED TO RESUME FACE-TO-FACE TALKS WITH THE ISRAELIS BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES HAD ACCEPTED THE EGYPTIAN LEADER'S CHALLENGE TO BECOME A FULL PARTNER IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

PRESIDENT SADAT: (INAUDIBLE)...IN CAMP DAVID, IS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES, ACTS AS A FULL PARTNER.

SECRETARY VANCE: AS PRESIDENT SADAT HAS SAID, WE ARE PREPARED TO PLAY A ROLE AS A FULL PARTNER. WE SEEK THE SAME OBJECTIVES. WE SEEK PEACE. WE SEEK A JUST AND LASTING PEACE.

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VALERIANI (CONT): AS A FULL PARTNER, THE U.S. IS EXPECTED TO MAKE ITS OWN PEACE PROPOSALS AT THE CAMP DAVID SUMMIT, WHICH APPEARS TO BE A LAST DITCH, ALL OUT EFFORT BY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

ABC--NO DUNSMORE

NOTE: MORNING PAPERS AND NEWS SHOWS HAVE NUMEROUS PEICES ON SUMMIT. NEWSOM

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